



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Walke *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 09/833,782

Examiner: M. A. Walicka

Filed: 04/12/01

Title: Novel Human Metalloprotease and  
Polynucleotides Encoding the Same

Atty. Docket No. LEX-0161-USA

RECEIVED  
MAY 05 2003  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**  
**DATED JANUARY 24, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Final Office Action ("the Action") mailed on January 24, 2003 (Paper No. 13), which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments and reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the objections and rejections in Paper No. 13 in the same order in which they were originally raised.

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the claims:**

Please amend previously added Claim 5 to read as follows.

C1

5.(amended) A cell comprising the expression vector of Claim 4.

15/c  
M.A.  
5/6/03  
(ME)

OK to enter.  
M.A.